

What is claimed is:

1. A method for determination and correction laser induced CCD camera or CCD array degradation comprising the steps of:
  - a) shifting the wavelength by small steps
  - b) record each interference pattern after each wavelength shift by a CCD camera
  - c) summation of all recorded interference pattern
  - d) calculation of an average interference pattern  $R(i)$
  - e) evaluation of the sensitivity of each individual pixel  $i$  of the CCD camera
2. An algorithm to calculate the sensitivity of destroyed pixels of a camera, which was irradiated by laser light.
3. A method as in claim 1, wherein damages on the coating of the CCD camera or CCD array are caused by the laser irradiation.
4. A method as in claim 1, wherein spatially localized damages of the imaging optics projecting a pattern on the CCD camera or CCD array are corrected.
5. A method as in claim 1, wherein the laser is an ArF or KrF or  $F_2$  laser.